

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/682,626	HERNDON, JOHN	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Dmitry Suhol	3714	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to interview held on 11/22/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 09 October 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

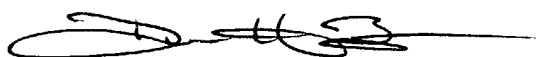
\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</li> <li>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date <u>1/7/04</u></li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br/>of Biological Material</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)</li> <li>6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date <u>1/23/04</u></li> <li>7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment</li> <li>8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance</li> <li>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</li> </ol> |
|---|---|



DERRIS H. BANKS  
 SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
 TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Francis Pinckney on November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1, line 6, after "...a holding member supported..." insert - - by a vertically extending post to extend in a horizontal direction away from said post and - -.

Claim 1, line 7, after "...securing elements thereon spaced..." insert - - horizontally - -.

Claim 1, line 8, after "...being formed..." delete "to temporarily hold" and insert - - of a material for temporarily grasping - -.

Claim 1, line 8, after "...said string in place..." delete "thereat" and insert - - at a horizontal spacing from one another - -.

Claim 9 has been canceled.

### REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The specific limitations of (with respect to claim 1) "...a holding member supported by a vertically

extending post to extend in a horizontal direction away from said post and above the base member and having at least two separate and distinct securing elements thereon spaced horizontally from one another and each said securing member being formed of a material for temporarily grasping a different one of said two ends of said string in place at a horizontal spacing from one another to permit said child to manipulate the string and form a bow in the string" and (with respect to claim 7) "...a post member removably mounted in said base member and extending vertically upward therefrom; and, (d) a holding member removably mounted to said post member and positioned above said base member at a distance corresponding generally to said predetermined distance between said first and second colored indicators and said base member, said holding member having securing elements mounted thereon in spaced relation to one another and formed to temporarily hold said ends of said string in place thereat, said securing elements each having a different color that corresponds, respectively, to the colors of said first and second color indicators on said ends of said string" are not anticipated or made obvious over the prior art of record in the examiners opinion. For example, Collins discloses a device for assisting a user to tie a bow which teaches a base member (10), an extended string attached to the base member with two ends extending loosely from the base member (figure 1, elements 13 and 14), a holding member supported above the base member (15) and having at least two separate and distinct securing elements thereon spaced from one another (read onto the separate and distinct upper and lower jaw forming jaws 35) formed to temporarily hold the ends of the string in place (figures 8-10). Two holes with substantially equal portions of a

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string threaded therethrough are shown as elements 19 and 20 in figure 1. However prior art of record fails to teach or disclose the combination of the required structural features as claimed and indicated above.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dmitry Suhol whose telephone number is 571-273-4430. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Friday 9am-5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Derris Banks can be reached on 703-308-1745. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

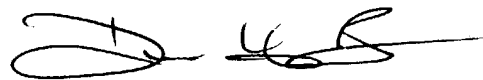
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. H. Banks', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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